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January 22, 2010
Hand Delivered

Steven J. Tucker
Spokane County Prosecuting Attorney
1100 W Mallon Ave
Spokane, WA 99260-2043

Re: *Kenny Putnam v. Morning Star Boys Ranch*
(In Trial Before Judge Kathleen M. O'Connor, Dept. 4, Room 407)

Dear Mr. Tucker:

I have been observing the *Kenneth Putnam v. Morning Star Boys Ranch* case now being tried to a jury before Judge Kathleen M. O'Connor. I have attended the jury selection and have been in attendance every day of the trial – the trial itself will go into its 5th day this coming Monday, January 25, 2010.

There are 18 - 19 of these cases – claims of sexual abuse for which Morning Star Boys Ranch is liable. Judge Michael Price, this past summer, ordered that the cases be tried separately. The Putnam case is the first case of the series. It will have a great impact on the cases to follow and the course each one of the cases will take before and during trial. The attorney for Mr. Putnam is Tim Kosnoff who is assisted by Dan Fasy. The attorneys for Morning Star Boys Ranch are Jim King and Bob Sestero of Evans Craven & Lackie.

Yesterday, Mr. Kosnoff said that he was going to call a Michael Clarke to the stand for the plaintiff this coming Monday. Mr. Clarke is presently incarcerated at the Airway Heights Correction Facility. Mr. Clarke is a “surprise witness.”

He said, as best I can recall, that Mr. Clarke had been paid \$2,000 in cash by Father Weitensteiner, that he had been procuring boys for sex with Father Weitensteiner when he was the director at Morning Star Boys Ranch, that Father Weitensteiner and one of his attorneys at the time met with Mr. Clarke, that the money was to purchase Mr. Clarke's silence. Father Weitensteiner denies all of the allegations against him.

Someone is not telling the truth. The matter is such that it is no small matter. One way or another significant criminal wrongdoing is taking place.

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Judge O'Connor plans on taking testimony from Mr. Clarke and perhaps the attorney who met with Mr. Clarke and Father Weitensteiner this coming Monday. The testimony is to take place out of the presence of the jury. She may or may not allow Mr. Clarke to testify to the jury.

The testimonial event scheduled by Judge O'Connor simply cannot get to the truth and the heart and implications of what may be happening. Something much more is required.

The allegations do not involve a minor bit of criminal wrongdoing. One way or the other, the allegations involve significant wrongdoing and possibly several participants. It seems the citizens have a right to have the truth found out.

Clearly, an investigation by your office, one that begins immediately, is warranted.

Perhaps you should secure a Special Inquiry Judge for the matter or cause a grand jury to be impaneled.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Stephen K. Eugster

Stephen K. Eugster

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